

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An assembly comprising:

a trough element having a trough opening along a long dimension thereof and two ends perpendicular to said long dimension; and

a support subassembly coupled to said trough element and adapted to be fixedly attached to an apparatus in a manner that causes said trough opening to generally face said apparatus at a distance from a nearest face of said apparatus that is greater than 0 inches, and further adapted to permit, while connected to said trough element, the placement of a cable into said trough opening without handling an end of said cable while said assembly is attached to said apparatus by said support subassembly.

2. (Previously Amended) The assembly of claim 1

where said support subassembly is adjustable to enable said trough opening to be at an adjustable distance from a plane containing a face of said apparatus.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The assembly of claim 1~~ An assembly comprising:

a trough element having a trough opening along a long dimension thereof and two ends perpendicular to said long dimension; and

a support subassembly coupled to said trough element and adapted to be fixedly attached to an apparatus in a manner that causes said trough opening to generally face said apparatus at a distance from a nearest face of said apparatus that is greater than 0 inches

where said supports are adjustable to enable said trough opening to be at an adjustable angle relative to a plane containing a face of said apparatus.

4. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 1, further including said apparatus that is ~~where said apparatus is a frame to which equipment to which said subassembly is attached, which frame that~~ contains electronic components, or optical components, or both (electronic/optical equipment) is attached, a rack to which electronic/optical equipment is attached or on which electronic/optical equipment is placed, or an electronic/optical equipment module.

5. (Original) The assembly of claim **1** further comprising one or more detent components that are physical extensions of said trough element.

6. (Original) The assembly of claim **1** further comprising detent elements associated with said trough opening.

7. (Original) The assembly of claim **6** where said detent elements include flexible components.

8. (Previously Amended) The assembly of claim **1** further comprising one or more detent elements that are coupled to said trough element.

9. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim **1** wherein said trough element is constructed to be bendable upon application of force, and shape-holding upon removal of said force ~~pliable~~.

10. (Previously Amended) ~~The assembly of claim 1~~ An assembly comprising:
a trough element having a trough opening along a long dimension thereof and two ends perpendicular to said long dimension; and
a support subassembly coupled to said trough element and adapted to be fixedly attached to an apparatus in a manner that causes said trough opening to generally face said apparatus at a distance from a nearest face of said apparatus that is greater than 0 inches wherein said trough element includes slots in sides of said trough element to enable said trough element to be bent in a plane containing a long axis of said trough element and perpendicular to said sides.

11. (Previously Amended) The assembly of claim **1** where said trough element includes slots in bottom of said trough element to enable said trough element to be bent in a plane containing a long axis of said trough element and perpendicular to said bottom.

12. (Original) The assembly of claim **1** wherein said trough element has a cross section that is generally U-shaped.

13. (Delete)

14. (Delete)

15. (Currently Amended) An assembly comprising:
an apparatus containing electronic circuitry having a face that is substantially perpendicular to ground;
a trough element having a trough opening along a long dimension thereof and two ends perpendicular to said long dimension; and
a support subassembly adapted to be attached to said face of said apparatus, and including means to connect further adapted to be adjustably connected to said trough element, substantially horizontally to said ground, at an adjustable distance from said face.

16. (New) The assembly of claim **15** where the adjustability of the connection of said support assembly to said trough element permits connection of said trough element at different distances away from said apparatus.

17. (New) ~~The assembly of claim 15~~ An assembly comprising:
a trough element having a trough opening along a long dimension thereof and two ends perpendicular to said long dimension; and
a support subassembly adapted to be attached to an apparatus, and further adapted to be adjustably connected to said trough element
where the adjustability of the connection of said support assembly to said trough element permits connection of said trough element at an angle other than a direct facing of said trough opening a front plane of said apparatus.

18. **(Currently Amended)** The assembly of claim ~~15~~7 where said angle is adjustable.
~~attached to an apparatus in a manner that causes said trough opening to generally face~~
~~said apparatus at a distance from a nearest face of said apparatus that that is greater than 0~~
~~inches.~~

19. **(New)** The assembly of claim **15** where said apparatus is a rack or a communication apparatus adapted to be installed in said rack.